

O'Brien Authorizes Retreading

Erie Canal Stamp, New Postal Items Coming; Plan Additional Printing Of "Beautification"

Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien made public the design of the 5c Erie Canal Sesquicentennial commemorative. It will be issued with first day ceremonies July 4 at Rome, N. Y., where the first dirt was dug on that day in 1817. This engineering marvel of its time had a tremendous economic impact on the country. It was a 363-mile ditch that linked Lake Erie with New York City.

The Sesquicentennial at Rome will be highlighted by reenactment of the ceremony of 1817. Historical markers will be presented by the New York Historical Society and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

It was modeled by Robert J. Jones and engraved by Howard F. Sharpless of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Light blue and red will be printed by offset; dark blue and black by the Giori press.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations may send addressed envelopes, together with remittance to cover cost of the stamps to be affixed, to the Postmaster, Rome, New York 13440. A close-fitting enclosure of postal card thickness should be placed in each and the flap either turned in or sealed.

The outer envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "FIRST DAY COVERS 5c ERIE CANAL STAMP". Orders must not include requests for mint copies. Requests must be postmarked no later than July 4.

The New York Evening Post devoted nearly one page in reporting the big story of November 4, 1825—the arrival of the first canal boats from Buffalo. There was a great parade, an ode to the occasion was read and a special song sung. Distinguished guests to the mayor's party drank thirteen toasts in celebration. Governor DeWitt Clinton poured a keg of Lake Erie water into New York Bay, marking the marriage of the waters.

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The design is by George Samerjan, New York City artist, who is also responsible for the Adlai Stevenson commemorative of 1965, and the Arctic Exploration of 1959.

Pictured is the stern of an early canal boat, on which appears in red open face type "ERIE CANAL", and beneath this, in black, "1817-1967". The cabin is light blue, against which leans a black ladder. The tiller is black, the hull red. Water and sky are dark blue. Upper right, in white, is "U. S. Postage 5c".



ERIE CANAL COMMEM. It will have its day of issue at Rome, N. Y. on July 4. It will be printed in multicolor in a combination of offset and engraving. The stamps will come fifty to the pane. Total printing was not made known by the Post Office Department.

Vatican Airmail Set Of Six Meets Need

The first new Vatican airmails since 1962 went on sale on March 7th, within one week of five years after the appearance of the high value Archangel Gabriel airmail, reports Pierson Ostrow of Burlington, Vt.



The new series consists of six stamps, using three designs. Only one of the trio represents an artist's conception, the other two being photographic. The 20 Lire violet and the 100L. rose and black show a jet plane over St. Peter's and are the work of the artist Peppino Piccolo.

The 40L. rose and black and 200L. blue and black make use of exactly the same design employed in 1959 on the second anniversary of the opening of the Papal radio station, St. Maria di Galeria. They show the Archangel Gabriel facing the Papal radio tower.

The 90L. gray blue and 500L. brown show an aerial view of the Basilica of St. Peter, somewhat as it appears on the special delivery stamps of 1949.

The stamps are printed by photogravure in the same size as other airmails of 1950-1962. They serve an urgent postal need, since virtually all of the previous airmail denominations were sold out in the Vatican before the appearance of the new series.

18 Decimal Values By New Zealand July 10

New Zealand has announced that a new set of 18 values in decimal currency will be issued July 10. They will retain the same designs as the present stamps.

Since there will be no need for their equivalents, the current 2½d, 1/3 and 1/9 values will not be reissued. Full details about the new series will be announced shortly.

A 7½c decimal value still to be issued in August to commemorate the centenary of the introduction of the Brown Trout into New Zealand waters, and an entirely new set of definitives is planned for 1970.



Atlantic City's Boardwalk at Illinois Ave., will April 14-15.

"The Spring" To April Philatelic Show At Atlantic City

is the new theme this year. A show that held in the fall of the year, has now been "Spring" show for a long time will be held Hotel Illinois Ave. and the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, N. J., on April 14-15.

SOJEX show in October. It gave more time to prepare and come up with their own 300 frames available, and arrangements have been made to increase this number to whatever quantity necessary. The exhibits as in the past are of the highest caliber, and the exhibitors will be vying for about 50 trophies in twelve different classifications.

In regards to participating societies, we might point out that SOJEX will welcome your inquiries for future shows.

In the past we have been host to several of the organizations joining us again this year, as well as other prominent national and international groups, and we are always planning ahead.

If we do not contact you, why not contact us? Any inquiry addressed to Alan Eckert, 420 Bryn Mawr, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

(Continued on page 54)

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Carl P. Rueth

It was with considerable dismay that I learned in New York at the time of the Interpex, that the Post Office Department and its Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee had decided against the issuance of a commemorative for the World Boy Scout Jamboree in Idaho this summer. It seems that the basis of the decision was the fact that the Scouts has been memorialized previously.

This is all true. However, where the United States is host to these boys from all over the world, many of whom would delight in a souvenir of this kind because of its economy, we fail them. I refer specifically to non-stamp collectors - naturally, the philatelic-minded ones are going to be thoroughly disappointed.

It would be the first time since 1933, when Hungary was the locale of this international event, that the host nation failed to issue at least one stamp. Most times, the Scouts receive a tribute amounting to a modest priced set of two or more.



There is a ready made design which can be adopted quickly - the official emblem which will be worn by all. I'm sure that the officers and governing board of the Boy Scouts of America will grant permission for its use.

If the time is too short for a stamp, then it will be possible to produce a commemorative postal card, one similar to that for SIPEX with views of America, or with a Scouting theme. In any case, let's not let this outstanding affair pass without philatelic recognition from the Post Office Department - not with a special postmark or cachet - but with a stamp or postal card.

The Jamboree takes place August 1 to 9 in Idaho's Farragut State Park. Of the 17,000 boys expected, 4280 will be from the U. S.

1. Quotations from what six men are to be found in the designs of the Greco set?
2. On how many of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial set of four is he pictured with a beard?

There are many good things to report on the recent Interpex staged in the Americana Hotel, New York City, March 17-19. There are a couple of minuses as well, but they had to do with our representation, and not with the ninth edition of this annual March affair under the management of Herbert Rosen.

Our entire shipment of copies of Linn's for free distribution never got to us. There was some terrible mix-up between the trucking companies via which they were sent from Sidney, and the people on the receiving dock of the hotel. I was told that they had been brought for unloading on Tuesday afternoon, as well as Thursday, but were refused handling both times.

In other years, our boxes of papers were awaiting us in our booth. We who manned it, had to greet interested visitors to the show with smiles and no papers. If you know of someone who was disappointed in not being able to get a copy of Linn's for inspection we'd appreciate learning the name and address so we can make up the deficiency.



AN ADAMS EXPRESS CANCELLATION tying a 10c green Nashville, Tenn. Provisional is but one of the many outstanding items from the H. Gray Muzzy collection of Confederate States covers to be sold soon in New York City. H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York will put the holding on the block Friday evening April 28.

It seems that all the stamp people with whom we talked, who stayed in the Americana, had the same large-size complaint - parties, door-slamming, running and yelling in the halls and other inconsiderate conduct went on each night from Wednesday through Saturday inclusive. Both adults and juniors were responsible. Sleep was practically nil until around three and four o'clock in the morning.

We rested up after returning home, but it was hard to take and try to do a decent job while it was going on. Things looked bleak weather-wise on the opening day of Interpex, March 17. It had snowed plentifully during the night, a condition which continued until about noon. There was cold and wind. Few people were on the streets, taxicabs were almost impossible to get, the St. Patrick's Day Parade was delayed and shortened, and a number of the individuals invited to the opening ceremonies of Interpex, and the ceremonies in connection with the new United Nations stamps on that day, didn't get there.

In the afternoon, things were more livable outside which in turn caused a considerable increase in attendance. Followed by two days of rather nice weather on Saturday and Sunday, a new attendance total was established. Aides in the bourse and exhibition areas were jammed.

Dealers for the most part were greatly pleased with their sales. If there was a recurrent criticism on the part of prospective buyers which bears repeating, it is that buyers were looking for a lot of items in the higher priced categories which were not on offer. On the whole, however, there seemed to be a more substantial kind of merchandise at Interpex than at the annual ASDA Show, the sister event of each November.

Probably the most inspiring bit of action at this Interpex was the \$500 in prize money offered by Robert Weisberg of the Vidiforms Co., an advertiser in Linn's of Showgard Mounts. Mr. Weisberg divided the sum into \$250 for first, \$150 for second, and \$100 for third.

Every entry in Interpex was eligible with the exception of those devoted to covers only. A general presentation which contained covers, but dominated mostly by stamps, was also judged. Mr. Weisberg's cash awards were for the "Best Mounted Collection".

Points were awarded for Imagination, Visual Attraction and Originality. Doing the appraising were Mrs. Margaret Hackett, president of the American Topical Assn.; Norman Todhunter, artist and member of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee; and yours truly.

We unanimously agreed on the winning three - Jerri Chaivoe with his "Chess - Civilized Combat" in the Topicals; Ben Feinbloom's "National Anthems" in the Fine Arts section; Dr. Eugenia Ewart of the Women's Philatelic Society of New York presented "Polish Culture and its Contribution to World Culture".

Their winning was announced at the Saturday evening Awards Dinner. Mr. Weisberg was present with his checkbook; he immediately awarded the prizes he had promised. It is of interest to report that the first prize winner of the \$250 had his material affixed to the album pages in the mounts produced by a competitor and not the Showgard brand which are sold by Vidiforms Co.

Since this is to be an annual practice on Mr. Weisberg's part, collectors can begin "polishing up" their entries. Announcement will be made later of the exhibition in which the next competition will be held.

Interpex gold, silver and bronze medals were also made available to the clubs which participated in the exhibition. Each of these areas are judged within themselves with (Continued on page 7)



\$500 IN PRIZE MONEY was provided for first, second and third place winners for the "Best Mounted Stamp Collections", by the Vidiforms Co., manufacturers and sellers of "Showgard Mounts". Robert Weisberg, president of the firm, above, conceived the cash awards as an encouragement towards better display of collections by stampers. Photo, Carl P. Rueth

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112	6.50	230	50	287	5.50	372	25	488	7.00
113	6.50	231	50	288	5.50	373	4.75	490	7.00
115	10.00	232	2.25	290	10.00	381	5.00	496	7.00
116	11.00	233	2.90	291	25.00	385	75	500	7.00
117	15.00	234	3.50	292	65.00	387	80	502	7.00
119	19.00	235	3.50	294	50	388	50	504	7.00
120	29.00	236	6.75	295	60	389	6.00	506	7.00
136	9.00	237	3.75	296	5.00	400	11.50	508	7.00
145	4.25	238	7.50	297	5.50	402	9.50	510	7.00
152	12.50	239	10.00	298	5.00	404	75.00	512	7.00
159	6.50	241	46.00	299	8.00	405	30	514	7.00
161	8.00	242	55.00	300	25	406	75	516	7.00
162	19.00	243	65.00	304	1.25	409	15	518	7.00
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